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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the following remarks, reexamination and reconsideration of this application, withdrawal of the rejections, and formal notification of the allowability of all claims as presented are earnestly solicited. Claims 33, 35-40, 42-45, 49, 53, and 54 are pending. The Office Action indicates that Claims 49 and 54 are allowed and Claims 39-44 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicant notes, however, that the subject matter of Claim 41 was previously incorporate into Claim 33, and Claim 41 cancelled. In response to the Office Action, Claims 33, 35-40, 42-45, and 53 have been amended. The amendments to the claims find support throughout the Specification and the Figures and no new matter has been added. Accordingly, it is believed that the claims now define patentable subject matter over the prior art cited by the Examiner and notice to such effect is requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 33 and 53 were rejected in the Office Action as being indefinite. In response, Claim 33 has been amended such that the latticework support structure is now a positive element of Claim 33. The Applicant thus submits that this amendment to Claim 33 addresses this rejection and requests withdrawal thereof.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 33, 35, and 45 were rejected in the Office Action as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,526,629 to Canvaness in view of U.S. Patent No. 1,597,373 to Grimm. Claim 36 was rejected over the Canvaness '629 and Grimm '373 references in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,715,637 to Hesterman *et al.* Claim 37 was rejected as being unpatentable over the Canvaness '629, Grimm '373, and Hesterman '637 references in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,703,003 to Ruppel. Claim 38 was rejected as being unpatentable over the Canvaness '629 and Grimm '373 references in view of U.S. Patent No. 1,682,253 to Romero *et al.*

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In response, Claim 33 has been amended to claim a building façade panel system having the latticework support structure as a positive element of such system. Claims 35-40, 42-45, and 53 have been amended to appropriately reflect the system now claimed in amended Claim 33. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

The *Allowable Subject Matter* section of the previous Office Action, mailed November 18, 2003, indicated that Claim 41 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In response to that Office Action, the subject matter of Claim 41 was incorporated into Claim 33, and Claim 41 was cancelled. In the present Office Action, which incidentally still indicates that Claim 41 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the *Response to Arguments* section indicates that the subject matter of now-cancelled Claim 41 would not be considered as a claim limitation unless the latticework support structure was a positive element of the claimed subject matter in Claim 33. As indicated, Claim 33 has been so amended to include the latticework support structure as a positive element of the claim. As such, the Applicant submits that amended Claim 33 is now allowable, as indicated in the Office Action, since the subject matter of Claim 41 was previously incorporated therein. Therefore, since amended Claim 33 is allowable, Claims 35-40, 42-45, and 53, which depend either directly or indirectly from Claim 33, are also allowable over the Canvaness '629, Grimm '373, Hesterman '637, Ruppell '003, and Romero '253 references.

Conclusion

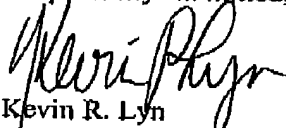
In summary, the Applicant submits that the present invention, as defined by the pending claims, is patentable over the prior art cited in the Office Action. As such, Claims 33, 35-40, 42-45, and 53 are believed to be in condition for immediate allowance, in addition to Claims 49 and 54 that have already been allowed. Accordingly, notice to such effect is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest opportunity.

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It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

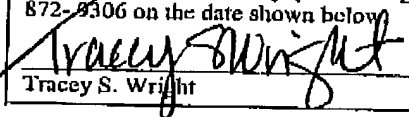
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